

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Roxy Conniff, Council President. The following statement was read by Teri Giercyk, Municipal Clerk:

STATEMENT

“Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press, Star Ledger and was posted in the lobby of the Municipal Building.”

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was taken by the Municipal Clerk:

Councilman Joseph Hankins	- present
Councilman James Vaccaro	- present
Councilman Craig Wallis	- present
Councilwoman Michele Zolezi	- absent
Councilwoman Roxy Conniff	- present

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that also present were Mayor Arace, Township Attorney Lauren Staiger, Business Administrator Carl Block, Chief Dolan, and Director of Finance Diane Lapp CMFO.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS - READ INTO THE RECORD

Memo from Mayor read into the record by the Municipal Clerk appointing Paula Fazio-Escuerdo to the Economic Development Board

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Arace presented a Proclamation Recognizing Emergency Services Appreciation for the April 2023 Forest Fire. First Responders were present to receive the Proclamation.

COMCAST PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Robert Clifton of Comcast gave a summary of services. Manchester Township is unique with two companies. Crestwood Village and the rest of the town. Crestwood Village contract expired in 2021 and the other contract expired March of 2023. He reviewed the procedures to renew. A 626 letter was sent to the municipality with intent to renew seeking a consent ordinance to continue in right-a-way. COA document from the state public utilities board is a certificate to serve in this town. Rates are regulated by the State and channel lineup are out of the municipalities hands.

Council President Conniff opened to public comment with a limit of 3 minutes per person.

Frank Camposano – Woodview Drive – Mr. Camposano asked if it is possible to have meetings on the local channel.

Nancy Riker – Spring Street – Ms. Riker asked if Comcast keeping the internet and emails. Mr. Clifton replied, yes. She stated that she is happy with the service, except the cost is high.

Gerard McCann – Aster Place – Mr. McCann asked if the town could have other public meetings with citizens to discuss. He felt a 10-year contract is excessive. If other companies came into town there would be competition. He asked the Township to make sure you do your due diligence on the west side.

Darrell Dorofy – Pasadena Rd. – Mr. Dorofy discussed his letter that he sent to Council, requesting internet on his street. There are only 10 houses affected.

Gail Apgar – Columbus Blvd. – Ms. Apgar stated that she was notified to replace two boxes, and asked if she has to go to the store to do it. Mr. Clifton replied, yes. Maybe the bundles could combine different things we like. She stated that when she went to the store on Hooper Avenue, Gary was very helpful but maybe newer employees could be trained better.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro Comcast public hearing was closed. All in favor, yea.

BUDGET INTRODUCTION

#23-223 Introduction of 2023 Municipal Budget Notice. The budget was read into record by Teri Giercyk Municipal Clerk, and introduced upon a motion made by Mr. Vaccaro, seconded by Mr. Hankins. All Yea. Councilman Zolezi was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The regular meeting minutes of April 24, 2023, were offered upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following roll call: Councilman Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Conniff, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS

#23-224 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$11,258,710.01 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins, and was approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-225 - Authorizing payment of bills from Utility Fund – ESA in the amount of \$204,454.44 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis, and was approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-226 - Authorizing payment of bills from Utility Fund – WSA in the amount of \$135,314.52 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis, and was approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

ORDINANCES - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Action

#23-08 -AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 245, ENTITLED LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT, AND CHAPTER 267, ENTITLED MOBILE HOMES AND TRAILERS

#23-09 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND APPENDIX OF CHAPTER 245, ENTITLED ZONING MAP

Ordinances #23-08 and #23-09 were tabled upon a motion made by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis due to the fact the Planning Board did not review due to their meeting being cancelled. Their next meeting will be June 5th. All in favor; yea.

ORDINANCES – First Reading & Introduction

#23-11 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF PORTIONS OF BURNSIDE STREET ABUTTING BLOCK 1.339, LOT 5 AND BLOCK 1.340, LOTS 22-25

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public. The comment period was closed, and the ordinance was approved upon a motion by Councilman Wallis seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-12 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF LANDS (BLOCK 1.317, LOTS 33 & 34 FOR BLOCK 1.317, LOT 40) BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND JEFFREY JERMAN PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-16

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public. The comment period was closed, and the ordinance was approved upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro seconded by Councilman Wallis and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-13 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF LANDS (BLOCK 1.131, LOT 20 FOR BLOCK 1.191 LOT 15) BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND JEFFREY JERMAN PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-16

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public. The comment period was closed, and the ordinance was approved upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro seconded by Councilman Wallis and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-14 - CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REMEDIATION OF WELL #4 AND APPROPRIATING \$150,000 THEREFOR, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public. The comment period was closed, and the ordinance was approved upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro seconded by Councilman Wallis and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Township of Manchester and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on any item on the consent agenda.

Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public on any items on the consent agenda. No comments from the public

Resolutions #23-227 - #23-239 were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis, and adopted by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

A. FINANCE

#23-227 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 61.21, LOT 25 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-228 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 1.291, LOT 26 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-229 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 111, LOT 8 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-230 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 113, LOT 1 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

B. RECREATION

#23-231 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF SCHOOL USE PERMITS BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

#23-232 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THEATRICAL RIGHTS WORLDWIDE

C. PURCHASING

#23-233 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CONTRACT THROUGH BERGEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM #206BCPS – FOR STRYKER MEDICAL #438-22 BID #22-14

#23-234 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF AN ENERGY AGGREGATION CONSULTANT THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS

#23-235 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO NATIONAL COOPERATIVE LEASING (NCL) THROUGH SOURCEWELL NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONTRACT #011620-NCL FOR FOUR CHEVROLET POLICE RATED TAHOE'S AND ACCESSORIES

D. BONDS/ESCROWS

#23-236 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING ROAD OPENING ESCROWS POSTED BY UNDERGROUND SERVICES, INC. FOR MULTIPLE LOCATIONS (SOUTH COLONIAL DRIVE TOWNSHIP RIGHT OF WAY)

E. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#23-237 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SIDE LETTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP EMT REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

#23-238 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING A REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF 1801 RIDGEWAY ROAD (BLOCK 1, LOTS 1 AND 2) (SURF AND STREAM CAMPGROUND)

F. MISCELLANEOUS

#23-239 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SUPPORTING THE NEW JERSEY FOREST FIRE SERVICE AND FUELS MITIGATION PROJECTS USING PRESCRIBED FIRE AND OTHER TREATMENTS

REPORTS:

Councilman Vaccaro – Mr. Vaccaro wished a Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers, and he recognized National Nurse's Week. He thanked Diane Lapp, auditors, and everyone for their hard work on the budget. They did a tremendous job. He attended various meetings. Mr. Vaccaro stated that it has been almost one year since we passed ordinance #22-15 on the installation of EV stations that would move us forward. With that being said, there are grants and programs out there. (CFI) I would like to see solar carports over the parking lots. He felt it would be beneficial for the town.

Councilman Wallis – Mr. Wallis thanked all the EMS staff and all the volunteers who were on the front lines working the forest fire.

Councilman Hankins – Mr. Hankins thanked the Ladies Auxiliary who supplied meals and stayed all night.

Mayor Arace – Mayor Arace stated that on June 12th he will give his budget presentation.

Chief Dolan – Chief Dolan stated that OEM Director Sgt. Rob Sharry is currently having a tabletop exercise and they are always training.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ed Lynch – Bridle Way – Mr. Lynch asked everyone to please use the microphones when speaking, so everyone can hear.

Karen Ferone– Twyford Lane – Mr. Ferone asked the governing body to please negotiate with Comcast.

Gerard McCann – Aster Lane – Mr. McCann inquired about what are the next steps with Comcast. He also commented on the rate structure that is controlled by the State.

Township Attorney Lauren Staiger responded that the rate structure is controlled by the State, and all companies are welcome by the Township.

Business Administrator Carl Block commented that the fibers run through the street, and the street is owned by the town. He stated that the cost is high to run new fibers, and the BPU controls the rate structure.

Larry Lee – Countrywalk – Mr. Lee thanked the Forest Fire Service.

Chief Dolan – Stated that there was a resolution on today’s agenda supporting the Forest Fire Service.

Vanessa Cisneros – Midway Ave. – Ms. Cisneros requested an update on the situation regarding a house near her, which she brought up to the Governing Body previously.

Council President Conniff commented that a meeting was held where they discussed ordinances and what can be done.

Township Attorney Lauren Staiger – We did discuss what can be done and are working on it. Issues are being addressed with our ordinances now and future ordinances.

Mayor Arace commented that the issue is not forgotten, and they are actively looking at ways to resolve it.

Kathy – Crestwood – She stated that when she moved in, the Kokes family negotiated lower rates for seniors, and asked why there is not a discount for seniors.

Wilma - New York Avenue – She inquired about the tabled ordinances, when the next Planning Board meeting is, and if she could attend.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, a motion to close to public comment and adjourn at 6:52 pm was made by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins, and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmember, Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff. Yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

Roxy Conniff
Council President

Teri Giercyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

5/22/2023
Date Approved